

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 129445  
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-02 SS-15 A-01 PRS-01 NSC-05  
PA-02 USIA-15 DHA-02 SP-02 SCA-01 /057 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PPC/P:GEBROWN:JAD  
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P 041749Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY  
INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 129445

FOR TODMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN), PE, EC

SUBJECT: NOON PRESS BRIEFING ON CUBA

1. NOON BRIEFING ON CUBA WAS QUITE LENGTHY, BUT  
COVERED MAINLY MATTERS WITH WHICH YOU VERY FAMILIAR  
CONCERNING INTEREST SECTIONS. ONLY PART OF IMMEDIATE  
INTEREST WOULD BE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE AFTER SPOKESMAN  
ANNOUNCED CUBAN PLAN TO RELEASE TEN AMERICAN PRISONERS:

2. QUOTE:

Q: CAN YOU CHARACTERIZE THAT?

A: CHARACTERIZE WHAT?

Q: THIS STEP.

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A: WELL, JOHN IN THE CONTEXT OF IMPROVING RELATIONS,  
WE THINK IT CAN BE TAKEN AS A GESTURE. HOWEVER, IN  
CUBA THERE ARE A NUMBER OF U.S. PRISONERS, AS WE HAVE  
ALREADY BEEN THROUGH HERE, WHO ARE BEING HELD ON  
POLITICAL GROUNDS--POLITICAL GROUNDS--

Q: NUMBER OF U.S., YOU SAY, OR U.S. PRISONERS?

A: U.S. PRISONERS--SOME OF THEM ELDERLY AND IMPRISONED FOR MANY YEARS. AND WE WOULD HOPE THAT IN THE REVIEW OF ALL OF THESE CASES THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT IS UNDERTAKING, THEIR CASES COULD BE GIVEN COMPASSIONATE CONSIDERATION.

Q: JOHN, DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE TEN ARE NOT POLITICAL PRISONERS THAT ARE BEING RELEASED? NONE OF THEM?

A: THE TEN, BARRY, WERE BEING, OR ARE BEING HELD, IN CONNECTION WITH DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES. THAT IS WHAT IS INDICATED BY OUR REVIEW OF THE RECORDS.

END QUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PE, EC, (CARTER, ROSALYNN)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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